



Tomorrow: High: 43 F Low: 26 F



Thursday: High: 45 F

Good 'Feller' K-State professor and Red State Blues Band member, John Fellers has a passion.

Ho Ho, Huh? Columnist Joshua Huston thinks lying about Santa to children is bad for trust.

man

Karen Ingram

news editor

Wednesday.

deceased.

Suspects

arrested in

muder of a

Manhattan

A series of robberies led to an

altercation among the alleged criminals that resulted in one of

them being shot and killed early

According to a press release from the Riley County Police De-

partment, at 10:55 a.m. on Dec. 7,

a citizen called stating there was a man lying by the side of the road

on the 5200 block of North 48th

street. Emergency Medical Ser-

vices arrived and found the man

**Bright book** News editor Karen Ingram reviews the book 'Shiny Objects,' by James A. Roberts.

### Peanut butter prices increase due to bad harvest season

summer drought in the south-

from about 4.1 billion pounds

Peanut production is down

**Casey Droddy** contributing writer

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communi-

Reeses peanut butter cups, peanut butter cookies and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches each have the common factor of peanuts. Peanut butter prices are on the rise after what CNNMoney reports as, "one of the poorest peanut harvests in

last year to only 3.6 billion pounds this year. According to the Department of Agriculture, last year's peanuts cost \$450 a ton while last month the price jumped to \$1,200 a ton. As a result, many grocery stores will be forced to to increase

the price of peanut butter and, potentially, other items. Ray's Apple Market in Manhattan has yet to change all their prices of peanut butter, decades" due to an extensive but Tom Floersch, store manager, said they would not until they had to. Floersch said they were not interested in price

gouging.
"When last year's crop runs out is when prices will rise, but only if they have to," Floersch

Ray's Apple Market was aware of the bad peanut harvest and were notified by their corporate office located in Clay Center, Kan. Although

Ray's is a locally owned grocer, they have the fifth largest corporate office in the U.S. and are affected just as much as the

larger grocery store chains. They send us news letters about that, and recalls or anything that dramatically affects prices and availability," Floersch said.

HyVee has also felt the impact of the bad peanut harvest.

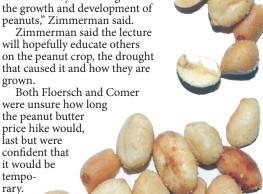
"Prices at retail are based on our costs, so when costs increase we use that as a basis for prices in our stores," said Ruth Comer, assistant vice president of media relations at the HyVee corporate office.

The price of peanut butter is estimated to increase between 20 and 30 percent. However, peanut butter is not the only product that could see a price

"The poor peanut crop inevitably does affect other products that contain peanuts or peanut butter and could see an increase as well," Comer Jessica Zimmerman,



Both Floersch and Comer were unsure how long the peanut butter price hike would, last but were



on the peanut crop, the drought that caused it and how they are

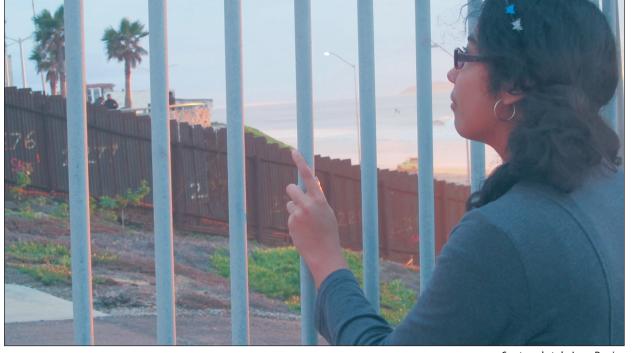
WIBW.com reported the cause of death appeared to be a gunshot wound to the chest. The victim, Steve R. Freel, age 31 and a resident of Manhattan, was a suspect in a series of armed robberies recently in Manhattan, along with an accomplice. An investigation was immediately launched and a series of search warrants were issued later that evening.
Police arrested Michael Blake

Layne, age 19, for first degree murder. Layne is being held in the Riley County Jail on a \$1,000,000 bond. Police also arrested Domingo Alfredo Soto, age 41, for conspiracy to commit first degree murder. Soto is being held on a \$500,000 bond.

It is believed the victim and suspect had come into conflict recently regarding several armed robberies they had committed together. It is believed that Soto owned the gun that was used to kill Freel, and loaned it to Layne to commit the murder.

The investigation is ongoing.

### Class to dispel myths about immigrants



Courtesy photo by Ivone Damian

Mayra Perez-Fajardo, freshman in Spanish and bakery science and management, looks toward Mexico through the bars of Friendship Park south of San Diego.

Karen Ingram news editor

American Ethnic Studies and Leadership Studies will be teaming up for a new intersession course beginning in summer 2012. The course will involve cultural awareness and service learning projects involving Latino migrant workers in the American southwest.

The idea for this course began with Jonathan Berhow, academic counselor for the Academic Assistance Center. Berhow said he had wanted to start a course like this for some time to raise awareness and dispel myths about migrant workers from Mexico and other countries who come to the United States for work. Migrant workers take many risks in coming to the U.S. for work, including deportation, prison or even

"If your family lives here, what's a month in prison?" Berhow said. "If you're willing to risk your life crossing the desert, surely a couple of months in prison isn't a de-

terrent." Berhow and four students traveled to Tuscon, Ariz. and San Diego over Thanksgiving break to visit several organizations involved in helping migrant workers. One of the organizations, No More Deaths, is a nonprofit organization that helps migrant workers in part by taking food and water out into the

desert to save them. Berhow said hundreds of migrant workers die each year because the fences surrounding populated areas force them to cross the Sonoran Desert, where they die of thirst in the summer or

freeze to death in the winter. They also visited a court in San Diego and watched about 70 arrested migrant workers be tried for entering the country illegally. Some were

sent to prison. Watching the proceedings had an impact on several of the students. Ivone Damian, senior in elementary education English as a secondary language, said she began to shake uncontrollably from

the emotion.

"I didn't want to cry, but I couldn't hold it back," Damian said. "These people are not criminals."

Falguni Vankar, freshman in computer engineering, said one of the men who pleaded with the judge for leniency had crossed the border illegally to visit his child who was having a birthday. The judge gave him 108 days in jail and the man asked for less time so he could go see his family afterwards. Vankar said he didn't seem to understand they would be deporting him back to Mexico after he served his time.

INTERSESSION | pg. 7

### Students to compete at regional acting festival

Chloe Salmon contributing writer

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communi-

Ten K-State students will attend the American College Theater Festival in January. The ACTF provides a way for students to improve their theater departments and their own

acting abilities. The ACTF was established in 1969 and has hosted 18,000 students from universities across the country year-round in regional competitions and a national competition. Students are nominated for the competition based on their performance in school productions throughout the semester.

A judge from the ACTF attended the K-State productions of "Brighton Beach Memoirs" and "The Adding Machine" and chose one student from each production to attend the ACTF. The directors of the plays then picked another candidate. The nominees chose partners outside of the candidate pool to perform with at the competition.

The regional competition will be held at Iowa State University from Jan. 16 to 22, 2012. Students compete through the week of the ACTF by performing acting pieces they prepare.

The benefits for students who

have attended the competition are numerous.

The contacts that you make while you're there is a big part of it, networking and being seen," said Kyle Myers, senior in the-

Myers attended the competi-

tion three years ago when he advanced to the semifinals with his partner. He was also nominated to attend in January.

work of other actors," Myers said. "It challenges you to do better. It's a very good artistic collection."

"You get to see the standard of

The experience also gives students a chance to develop their professional skills.

"They learn to prepare pieces at a competitive level," said Dwight Tolar, instructor of communication studies, theatre and dance. Tolar has taken students to the ACTF four times. Although he is not going this year, he said that, from his experience, students who compete leave with a broader view of what they can do professionally.

They figure out what they're good at and how to sell it," he said, "They get to see a lot more plays than they usually do, higher

caliber ones." Between rounds of the competition, ACTF hosts a number of workshops on various theaterrelated topics. Myers said that workshops range from Shakespearean acting to 24 hour play competitions, in which students have to write, cast and perform a short play in 24 hours.
Tolar said, in addition to

workshops, graduate schools attend the competition in order to search for students for their schools' programs. Regional theaters also hold auditions for summer positions and internships for students.

The ACTF provides students with an opportunity to meet with their peers and share their work in a constructive environment.

"This will challenge me to do different things as an actor," said Nahshon Ruffin, senior in theatre. "I'm excited about it."

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**CRYPTOOUIP** 

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N ZFKKNU Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE THIS SUCKER CANDY IS KNOWN TO BE THE CHEAPEST BRAND, PEOPLE CALL IT THE LOWLY LOLLY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals U

#### Logan's Run | By Erin Logan



#### Thanks for the memories



The Collegian editiorial board, pictured above, would like to thank the K-State and Manhattan communities for a great semester. Thank you for answering our calls, agreeing to do interviews with us, reading our paper and even pointing out our mistakes. We have enjoyed the role we play as a hub of information for the community. Good luck with finals purple nation. We'll see you in January, ready to report the news.

#### CORRECTIONS

There were errors in the Dec. 8 issue.

The profile of John Blair on page 1 incorrectly stated he is leading the Konza Prairie long-term economic research when it should have said "ecological." Also, the staff writer's name, Darrington Clark, was not present on the article.

The Collegian regrets the errors.

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call Managing Editor Caroline Sweeney at 785-532-6556 or email news@spub.ksu.edu.



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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Collegian welcomes your letters to the editor. They can be submitted by email to *letters@spub.ksu.edu*, or in person to Kedzie 116. Include your full name, year in school and major. Letters should be limited to 350 words. All submitted letters may be edited for length and clarity.

edge and features editor



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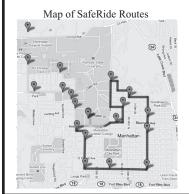




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### **Kelsey Castanon**

**COLLEGIAN EDGE EDITOR** 



on winning Fourth Place in the Hearst Journalism Competition For Feature Writing







### Professor's interests range from research to music

**Grant Zizzo** staff writer

John Fellers' life was always laced with music. His mother the minister of music at his church growing up. Fellers spent many hours fascinated at the organ bench. The gospel vocals of the church forever stained his ears and the woodwinds of the classical ensembles led to his positions playing alto and baritone saxophone in high school.

"I always liked the way the bari could make a baseline rhythm," said Fellers, assistant professor in plant pathology.
Fellers' early years living on a cattle

farm in Oklahoma were also instrumental in his taking to a blues style that would define decades to come.

"I grew up riding the tractor, there was always some kind of George James or swampy, down in the delta blues playing and I really liked it," Fellers said.

In music, Fellers said he identified most with the lyrical and emotional storytelling music of the '70s, even getting into early rap music. Fellers is taken with guitarists who can "really make it sing."

Attending Oklahoma State University, Fellers earned a degree in Agronomy in 1989, his masters in 1992 and a Ph.D. in crop science from the University of Kentucky in 1996. While at Oklahoma State, Felleres received his pilot's license.

"It was a really good deal," Fellers said. "They had the school of aviation right on campus, so I signed up for the class."

Eventually, Fellers came to K-State where he now works as an adjunct professor and researcher in plant pathology. Fellers said his work now primarily involves wheat and the prevention of crippling diseases.

Fellers said there are elements of a disease causing pathogen, the "key," that want to bind with "locked gates" in the plant cell walls to allow the intake of harmful materials. His research aims to isolate and change the shape of either the key or the gate to prevent a disease from infecting a

While working in his lab, Fellers said he likes to blast blues music, sometimes singing along. Consequently, he was overheard by a colleague in the neighboring lab, Bernd Friebe, research professor in plant pathology and guitarist for the Red State Blues Band.

"He overheard my music and came over," Fellers said. "He asked me to sing. I never did, though."

Fellers said he had heard of the Red State Blues Band before and, wanting to hear them, went to a gig at Bobby T's to listen.

"They played well, but it was really loud, especially for size of the place," Fellers said.

Fellers said he had been interested

in audio recording and sound for many years and had acquired some equipment. He offered the band his services. "I told them to let me try mixing

one of their gigs," Fellers said. "If they liked it they could keep me, if not, there was no obligation.' Walter Dobbs, professor in biol-

ogy and harp player for the Red State Blues Band, said Fellers' contributions were like "a completely different world, having him control the mixes and our monitors helps us play better." After he started working with the band, he eventually started singing some of their songs.

"One time, the singer was getting tired, so they asked me to sing the next set and I did," Fellers said. "They'll have me do six to eight songs

on a gig."

Dobbs described this role in the band as "rather unique...he is equally a member of this as he is the audio

In addition to singing, Fellers has recently picked up harmonica, taking online lessons. His office speakers drip out the thick music of the delta and his CD rack sports nearly 50 titles ranging from Muddy Waters to Pink Floyd and even Linkin Park. The Red State Blues Band has also produced one album, titled "12 Tracks", and hopes to release a second sometime in the spring.

Fellers' Twitter description sums up his diverse interests best: "Science geek by training, farm boy by raising, and a little off center by the grace of God. I'm the Sherpa for a blues band when not riding my Harley or flying."

#### THE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORTS

#### **WEDNESDAY**

Cristian Garduno Velasquez, of Junction City, was booked for theft. Bond was set at \$1,000.

Starlynn Mae Turbiville, of Topeka, was booked for driving under the influence and improper driving on a laned road. Bond was set at \$2,500.

Michael Blake Layne, of the 1000 block of Pottawatomie Court, was booked for two counts of failure to appear, first degree murder and aggravated robbery. Bond was set at

Vanessa Monica Colunga, of Junction City, was booked for driving under the influence. No bond was listed.

Alex John Knapp, of Fort Riley, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$500.

Carla Lee Scheller, of the 400 block of 18th Street, was booked for domestic

Rusty Wade Harding, of the 2100 block of Priairie Glen Place, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

John Leroy Cody Deem, of the 2000 block of Judson Street, was booked for extradition of imprisoned person. No bond was listed.

Kurtis Eugene Scheller, of the 400 block of 18th Street, was booked for criminal damage to property. Bond was

Devin Earl Bruce, of the 900 block of Osage Street, was booked for conspiracy to commit, burglary, obstruction of the legal process, aiding a convicted person and unlawful possession of hallucinogens. Bond was set at

Areale Nate Hanks, of the 100 block of Longview Drive, was booked for aggravated robbery and conspiracy to commit. Bond was set at \$250,000.

#### **THURSDAY**

Rylan Demarcus McRoy, of the 2200 block of College, was booked for criminal trespassing and purchase or consumption of alcoholic liquor by a minor. Bond was set at \$1,250.

Reyna Elizabeth Youdath, of Goodnow Hall, was booked for aggravated robbery and conspiracy to commit. Bond was set at \$250,000.

**Domingo Alfredo Soto**, of the 3400 block of 68th Avenue, was booked for conspiracy to commit. Bond was set at

Tevin Lance Bruce, of the 900 block of Osage Street, was booked for conspiracy to commit, aggravated burglary, obstruction of the legal process, obstructing apprehension or prosecution. Bond was set at \$7,000.

Antonio Rodriguez Munoz, of the 2500 block of Farm Bureau Road, was booked for possession of any drug substance and possession of opiates, opium or narcotics. No bond was listed.

Compiled by Sarah Rajewski.

### K-State daily briefs

Karen Ingram

The final doctoral dissertation of Ryan Bergstrom,"Conceptualizing Sustainable Community Development and Natural Resource Management in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem", will be held December 12 at noon in Seaton Hall room 164H.

Three families in need will be helped this holiday season in part by students in two University Experience classes as part of Holton Hall's annual Adopt a Family program. The classes raised money and collected items for the families for Christmas, but additional donations are needed. Items requested range from a coat and snow boots to toys like arts and crafts, wrestler action figures and donations for a bicycle. Anyone interested in donating items or money, or with questions about donations, may come to Holton Hall room 101 to pick a paper ornament from the pole with a wish on it. Donations will be accepted through Tuesday, Dec. 13.

The Salina Symphony Christmas Festival Concert will be held at the Stiefel Theatre on Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 18 at 4 p.m. More than 200 members of the Symphony, Salina Chorale, Kansas Wesleyan University Chorale, Children's Holiday Choir and Peggy Simms' Center for the Theatre Arts Dancers will be participating in the family-friendly event with music and dance. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$12 for students. For more information, contact Adrienne Allen at 785-823-8309 or visit www.salinasymphony.

Two people are dead after a shooting at Virginia Tech. The incident is still under investigation, but it appears a campus police officer did a routine traffic stop when the suspect shot and killed him. Officials would not comment on whether the second body was that of the suspect

### K-State students design model of rehabilitation center for soldiers

**Lindsay Beardall** 

They protect their country and fight for the rights of its citizens. Many, however, do not know of the struggles some soldiers face after an injury. K-State's architecture and design students are working on a special project to design a rehabilitation center for wounded Fort Riley soldiers.

"Through this project, I'm trying to help students by in-cluding service learning and a lesson on social responsibility," said Vibhavari Jani, associate professor of interior architecture and product design.

Jani said this project is called evidence and research-based design, meaning this project is a semester-long task, requiring six weeks of research, planning and site selection.

Students had an unlimited budget and choose their location; one planned facility was even built into a mountainside. Jani said she is excited for her students to show their designs to Fort Riley staff and soldiers.

They will be presenting their designs to the commander, clinic leaders and soldiers who will offer feedback," said Katie Rosario, public affairs specialist at Irwin Army Community Hospital. "Leaders here are always looking for innovative ideas and designs. In 2014 we do have plans to build a new facility."

Jani said her students have toured a rehabilitation hospital in Topeka as well as different therapy areas in Fort Riley. She said her students usually focus on renovation projects and

present to architecture students and faculty. That makes the assignment of designing an entire specialized building and presenting to members of the army a daunting one.

"Í think we all knew we would do a healthcare project," said Megan Pfau, senior in interior architecture and product design. "A lot of us were

> "Through this project, I'm trying to help students by including service learning and a lesson on social responsibility."

Vibhavar Jani **Associate Professor of** Interior Architecture and **Product Design** 

excited to do one because we haven't before and it's nice to have in your portfolio."

The time commitment, however, can be intense.

Toward the end of the semester, we pull about 14 hour days. It's like a full time job," said Adina Scanland, senior in interior architecture.

Despite the long hours, it is time well spent, according to Rosario. She said that students were able to see how different therapy is for wounded soldiers as opposed to therapies for the elderly, like those of-

fered at the Topeka facility. "In October, they toured the mild traumatic brain injury clinic here on Fort Riley. It is a state-of-the-art facility for soldiers who are either wounded during an exercise or in battle," Rosario said. "We have simulators for tasks like driving a Humvee. Soldiers may also have to relearn how to put a gun together which is why we have them do things like build model airplanes to work on their hand coordination?

Rosario said the students interviewed both therapists and soldiers, and asked what their ideal facility would look like. This could mean bigger rooms for wheel chair access or more outlets to move equipment more easily around a room. Students also measured different spaces within the therapy unit to get a better idea of how to design their project.
"There is a lot of research

that these students have done like interviewing occupational and physical therapists, measuring spaces and talking with soldiers about what therapies they need," Jani said.

Rosario said she thought that the project had the potential to help many soldiers recover from their injuries.

"They have really taken this project and come up with some amazing things. It's very important for a facility to have a practical side of what recovering soldiers need, but it is also important to make it a place where soldiers actually want to receive care and feel comfortable," Rosario said.

Students will present their final designs Dec. 14 at 9 a.m. in Fort Riley and Dec. 12 at 8:30 a.m. in Seaton 104.

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### Lying about Santa can cause sadness, distrust in children



The holiday season is here. This is called the most wonderful time of the year for many reasons. The stores and homes are lit up in an array of colors, everyone is in brighter spirits, a blanket of snow is attempting to cover our streets and Santa is getting ready to traverse the entire world in one night.

Except we all know this is not the case, being well-educated college students and all. A long time ago we all were let in on the secret (spoiler alert): Santa is not real. There is no jolly fat man flying across the world, delivering presents and eating our cookies; that is just our parents putting on a show for the kids. And I do not know about everyone else, but I was pretty heartbroken when I found out that Santa was not real. I got over it eventually, but for some reason the idea that my parents were getting those gifts was just significantly less enticing to my young mind.

This brings us to the case: is it OK for parents to lie to their children about Santa Claus? It is seemingly harmless and most parents do it anyway, so what could the issue be? Well obviously, as is the case with any issue, there are two sides here. However, before we delve into the issue itself, I believe the best way to understand a social phenomenon is to understand its history. So first let us briefly explore how Santa has risen to his current prominence.

Santa Claus can be traced back to Dutch figure Sinterklaas, a traditional winter figure very similar to Santa, though with a Roman Catholic background as he is usually portrayed as a bishop. Both of these figures can be traced back even further to fourth century Greece and the historical figure Saint Nicholas. Saint Nicholas was known as Nicholas the Wonderworker as he had a reputation of secret gift-giving - like leaving coins in people's shoes - and thus would go on to become the model for Santa Claus.

As I am sure we are all aware, Christmas is a holiday rooted in Christianity, hence both bearing the prefix "Christ," and it seems as though Santa was also rooted in Christianity, at least in times past. We can then infer that Santa has gone on to become such a prominent fixture of the holiday, at least in part, because he was once associated with the religious background the holiday is known for. However, this still begs the question - is it OK for parents to lie to their children about Santa?



On one hand, there is the notion that parents have to tell their kids many little white lies throughout their youngest years in order to protect them. In some cases, parents will often not tell their 5-year-old where babies come from because it is not appropriate for kids to know about those details. If parents are going to be lying to their kids about sex or the stork, what makes Santa so different?

As it turns out, even youngsters

do not like being lied to. Madeleine Zeitz, resident of Plano, Texas, and younger sister of K-State student Sophia Trombetta, freshman in biology, said "I just wanted to know the truth - why is it such a big deal?"

This is a sentiment echoed by my younger self - I felt as though if I had known Santa was fake from the get-go, it would have significantly less sad to find out Santa is just a fabrication of society. Then there is a bigger issue - is it OK to lie to your kids regardless of the subject matter? By lying to your kids you are breeding the mindset - whether you are aware of it or not - that lying is OK and once they find out Santa is not real, they are more likely to lie about things in their life as well.

However, we can tie all of this back to the whole issue of "you were delivered by the stork." Obviously there are some things that you really should wait until the children are older to divulge.

I think it comes down to the parents' individual decision — we all just have to make sure we are educated and know our kids well, so we can make the right choice when that time comes. Nonetheless, we can all still enjoy the holiday season. Happy Holidays K-State and have a wonderful winter break.

Joshua Huston is a junior in social work. Please send all comments to *opinion@* spub.ksu.edu.

## Christmas is for everyone to celebrate, not just those dedicated to Christianity



Raised in a Christian family, I always had the opportunity as a child to celebrate Christmas. When I was in middle school, I converted to agnosticism, but did not tell my parents, so we still celebrated the holidays as a Christian family. Now an atheist and out of the house, I find that I will probably still celebrate Christmas for the rest of my life, and not just because that's how I was raised.

Christmas is the holiday on which Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, so naturally it has very religious messages. However, in many societies, Christmas has turned into a parade of commercialism. The madness starts on Black Friday, and from then through the end of the year, when all the necessary gift exchanges are made, "gimme gimme gimme" seems to be the phrase on most peoples' minds.

It is nice to receive gifts from friends and family. The gifts have a few different purposes. The most obvious is for our enjoyment. Materialistic gifts, like video games or flat screen TVs, are given for our entertainment. Sentimental gifts, perhaps a handcrafted picture frame holding a photo of best friends, are given to remind us that someone cares.

One important thing to remember about gifting is that it is almost socially demanded. No longer is Christmas's biggest draw to celebrate the birth, life and death of Jesus; it's about the



gift exchange. It's rude not to buy your cousin's family some sort of gift. Your friends will feel left out if you don't buy them snazzy new nail polish.

While I enjoy the gifts, as I both receive and give them, I will always celebrate Christmas because of the atmosphere. Christmas is a time when I am with my loved ones. Family and friends come together on this holiday, and that is why it is a special time of year to me.

My mom has 10 siblings, and yet our Thanksgiving gathering was a total of five people including my mom, my brother and myself. At Christmas, it's a bigger ordeal. Most people in my family converge on my grandmother's house, and I love it. Family is really important to me, and so I cherish any time that we all come together.

In the future, I don't know whether I will be married, or if I'll have seven kids or zero, but I know that whatever form my family takes, I will be celebrating Christmas as an atheist because I want to celebrate family.

Some other agnostics celebrate Christmas, too. Haley Goranson, freshman in art, is an agnostic who still spreads Christmas cheer.

Goranson comes from a mostly nonreligious background and enjoys celebrating the holiday season with her family.

"I think Christmas can be celebrated by anyone," said Goranson. She listed reasons including a person's family believing in Jesus, or just the joys of giving to your family.

She enjoys the Christmas traditions of exchanging gifts, spending time with family and eating holiday food.

"This year, I look forward to listening to my niece talk about Santa," Goranson said, which brings into light another reason why non-Christians may celebrate

Christmas.
Several children grow up

believing in Santa Claus and trying to behave all year to avoid getting lumps of coal in their Christmas stockings instead of gifts. Santa is a giant part of Christmas tradition for many Americans. He finds his way into their homes during December in the form of decorations, cookies, wrapping paper and the voices of children.

Children, who are not raised as Christians, might feel left out amongst their peers if they did not celebrate the jolly bringer of Christmas gifts, and that's hardly fair. As Santa Claus is not strictly a Christian persona, it makes sense that children of non-religious backgrounds should be able to join in the festivities.

"I think the most impor-

"I think the most important thing about Christmas is spending time with the people you care about," Goranson said.

Summer is a freshman in anthropology. Please send all comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



K-Staters,

What an exciting semester this has been! With the 'Cats heading to the Cotton Bowl and everyone preparing for finals, Student Governing Association is closing out an exciting semester.

Kate and I came into office with three main goals: to improve the classroom experience of K-Staters, to enhance campus safety and to further your campus entertainment options through the creation of a member-rewards program. We're pleased to say that all three are well underway, and we have exciting news on each.

Safety Director Kate Wright has been working hard to improve safety on campus. One idea, the implementation of "safety stations" in high-traffic campus buildings, is well underway. These safety stations will provide services similar to the current blue-light systemaccess to Wildcat Walk, SafeRide and the K-State Police Department. They will be placed in the K-State Student Union, Hale Library and Seaton Hall. In recent weeks, funding for the project has been secured from non-student funds, and the final planning stages of the

project are now underway. Progress is also underway for classroom technology. Students are now represented on the Technology Classroom Planning Committee. Student Director of Technology Theo Stavropoulos and other students on the committee have been working with administration to plan and implement technology updates in classrooms across campus. K-State's largest lecture hall, Umberger 105, recently underwent extensive renovations, and other classroom improvements like this are being planned.

In addition to improving safety and technology, we have been working to enhance your entertainment options on campus. Entertainment Director Andy Blattner has been working to implement a student-rewards program called VIPcats. This entertainment program will provide benefits for students—advanced tickets, premium seating and other exclusive offers. The formal program proposal is being finalized and will be implemented for fall 2012.

În addition to our three main goals, we've also formed two committees to work with specific areas on campus: the First Year Experience Committee, composed of new K-Staters, is exploring methods to improve students' transition to K-State and the Communications and Marketing Student Advisory Board is providing feedback to K-State administration on university marketing and communication campaigns.

Kate and I have also served on the K-State 150th Anniversary committee, which is planning K-State's 150th year in February 2013. Kate has served on the Campus Master Plan Update Task Force, charged with shaping the long-term look and feel of our campus.

We've worked closely with the Student Privilege Fee Committee and its chair, Andrew Wagner, to balance the needs of campus agencies with affordability and responsibility in mind – this year, we are shaping up to see the lowest increase in your student privilege fees in years.

Overall, it has been an incredible semester serving all of you. Kate and I have enjoyed working in our roles and look forward to continuing our efforts in the spring

forts in the spring.
We thank you for your feedback and support.
Best wishes to the K-State football team in Dallas, and

Best wishes to the K-State football team in Dallas, and have a safe and enjoyable winter break.

Nate Spriggs student body president



### Title IX changes confidentiality for sexual assault victims

Colleen Quinn staff writer

Imagine befriending an upperclassman in your freshman year on campus. After attending a few parties, dinners and you suddenly find yourself at a bar in Junction City, drugged, with nowhere to go. The next morning you wake up in an unfamiliar apartment where you have been repeatedly beaten and raped by seven men you have never met.

This is what happened to Kristen Tebow, senior in women's studies. Her assault was classified as human sex trafficking. It took some time to heal, but Tebow now shares her story to fight for women everywhere who have been raped and sexually trafficked.

According to the National Institute of Justice, one in five women will be victims of completed or attempted sexual assault before they graduate college. This statistic is high and alarming, but many women rationalize "it would never happen to me." But for Tebow, it did.

"It took over a year to be able to talk to a professional counselor," Tebow said. "Finally, I just decided that I wouldn't let it consume me and dedicated my life to activism and helping others

like me. I continue to cope by sharing my story and promoting activism and advocacy. I also cope through my faith in God."

Victims of sexual assault have a place they can turn to here at K-State where they know they can be heard and never judged. The Women's Center is a small, comfortable and relaxing room in Holton Hall. As advocates for victims of rape, the students and their adviser, Mary Todd, hold weekly meetings and are actively involved in the organization Wildcats Against Rape (WAR).

"The idea of WAR came

from an idea started in a PEERS class that Mary Todd used to teach on campus," said Kaitlyn Dechant, junior in psychology. "The students were told of a woman who was raped on the bathroom floor of a bar in Aggieville all because there was no lock on the bathroom door. This story activated Wildcats Against Rape, a group to spread the idea of nonviolence and bring activism to the issue of violence against women here at Kansas State."

As of April 2011, the Women's Center and the confidentiality of WAR changed as Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 began to implement the new requirements related to sexual

harassment. Title IX states that if a school knows about student-on-student harassment, the school is required to take action in order to eliminate it.

The purpose of these requirements is to protect the student's right to living free from sexual assault on campus. But the controversy as to whether or not a student, who is a victim of sexual assault, must take action even if they didn't want to. The purpose of the Women's Center is for victims of sexual assault to have a safe environment to be heard, and nothing more. It is a place where what is said is held in complete confidence by Mary Todd. She does not judge a victim or influence any decision they make. When it seems there is no one else to talk to, Todd steps in and ensures the victim's voice is heard, off the

With the enforcement of the new requirements of Title IX, these confidential talks are no longer off the record. If a sexual assault occurs on campus, or the victim knows the assailant because they have a class together, Todd is now obligated to tell the victim that information about the alleged assault must be reported to the Office of Affirmative Action. Once Affirmative Action is

aware of the sexual assault, they begin an investigation to pinpoint the alleged assailant and determine the repercus-

"I think Title IX is going to hurt more than it will help," Dechant said. "It doesn't make places, such as the Women's Center, a safe, con-

"I think the responsibility of safety also needs to be reflected in the community, as in people looking out for each other"

Kaitlyn Dechant Junior in psychology

fidential place anymore when the rape or assault occurs on campus. I think that reporting rates will suffer because

of this."

The community and campus are working to inform both men and women to make sure they do not fall victim to sexual assault. The Riley County Police Department has worked with the university to raise awareness on sexual assault and developed simple precautions for students to take when going

out with a group of friends, like stick together. Never leave your drink unattended. It is what parents have told women for years. For some, there comes that night in Aggieville when one drink turns into one too many and the next thing they know, they wake up in the morning wondering what happened.

Having sex while under the influence of drugs or alcohol does not imply consensual sex. According to Kansas Statute 21-3502, rape is sexual intercourse with a person who does not consent to the sexual intercourse. Part C of the statute states that it is not consensual when "... any alcoholic liquor, narcotic, drug or other substance, which condition was known by the offender or was reasonably apparent to the offender."

"It goes back to the same old argument that we normally get, 'well I was drunk too," said Detective Sonia Gregoire of the Riley County Police Department. "We all might be thinking it was a bad decision that night, but it unfortunately could end up in a felony."

A majority of rape cases in Riley County are not "stranger rapes." The vast majority of cases are "acquaintance rape," in which the victim knows the assailant through a friend or through a class. After a night of drinking the pair has sex. By law, the alleged assailant can be taken to court and tried for rape if there is substantial evidence.

"Our job is to get the case together," Detective Gregoire said. "It is not our job to judge someone. I'm not going to judge that person for going out and having a good time because it didn't make it right for whatever the suspect did to them."

Even though this is a difficult topic for many people to discuss, it can't keep people silenced. To this day, Tebow has difficulty trusting both men and women after the emotional betrayal she experienced. Help is available on and off campus for victims. Whether reporting the assault to law enforcement or simply asking to be heard at the Women's Center, both places are looking out for the victim's best interest to assure there will be comfort and jus-"I think the responsibil-

ity of safety also needs to be reflected in the community, as in people looking out for each other," Dechant said. "If you see something going on at a party, in the mall, or out in the park, and you know that it is wrong, no one should be afraid to act on it and do the right thing."

## 'Shiny Objects' delves into materialism, economy slump



"Shiny Objects"

★★★★

Book review by Karen Ingran

With the recent economic recession, many people are trying to make sense of it all. How did we get to this point? With all the speculation and finger-pointing going on, it's difficult to say. The short answer is there is no simple answer, but the answers are not as ambiguous and difficult as they may seem.

"Shiny Objects: Why We Spend Money We Don't Have in Search of Happiness We Can't Buy" by James A. Roberts is an eye-opening experience. Regardless of financial status, this book is about you, me and everybody we know. Roberts delves into the history of spending in America, how we became

an all-consuming consumer culture, the impact it has on our country as well as our daily lives and

what to do about it. The amount of research in this book is staggering. Roberts cites multiple sources on each page: scientific studies, surveys and polls, historical documents and personal anecdotes. He delves into our love of money, our compulsive use of credit cards, genetics and nature versus nurture on our spending habits, how commercials and media affect us and he breaks it down for us in a no-nonsense, straightforward way that readers of any level can understand. It's horrifying and humorous all at the same time.

Roberts is a good authority on the subject of consumerism: as a professor of marketing at Baylor University, he has dedicated much of his life to studying consumer behavior, compulsive buying and credit card abuse. When he talks about marketing strategies, he uses the word "we," something I found refreshing and

hones

Some of the subjects touched upon in this book were not surprising to me, like how the presence of money makes people more self-interested and less likely to help others, how people who have more are never satisfied because it makes them want more, or how people's happiness levels cap off once they reach a certain financial level. Others left me utterly gobsmacked - like the data on how more students drop out of college because of financial problems than academic problems, the staggering numbers of product placements in our TV shows and how "word of mouth marketing" means your best friend or family member could be an "agent" secretly working for a company when

they recommend a new product for you to try. I give "Shiny Objects" a 5 out of 5 stars. It should be required for all incom-

Karen Ingram is a senior in English. Send comments to edge@spub.ksu.edu.

ing freshmen.

### Education similar in US, Mexico

Anton Trafimovich

While there are some similarities, the U.S. and Latin American countries share a lot of cultural differences. Luly Trevino Leal, senior in food science and an exchange student from the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education in Mexico, learned those cultural differences when coming to Kansas this year.

Leal Trevino lives in Monterey, Mexico, which is less than a three hour drive from the American border. In spite of visiting Texas several times a year, she didn't truly experience the American culture until this year.

"Texas is another state," she said.
"When I'm there, I never speak
English. In towns next to the border
everyone speaks Spanish," Trevino
Leal said.

Trevino Leal said the reason she came to Kansas was to learn and speak English. She said her education in Mexico is quite similar to that in the U.S. She even found classes here easier than she had at her home university.

"Most of Mexicans are coming to the U.S. to improve their English," she said.

Trevino Leal said she thinks she reached this goal after one semester in Kansas.

A big difference in education is the way people study, Trevino Leal said. Back in Mexico, she used to do her homework together with her classmates. If someone had difficulties, others could help their classmate by explaining material. She noticed that teamwork in doing homework was lacking at K-State.

At the same time she found Americans very tolerant and openminded.

"What I really like is that everyone here is very nice. People try to help you every time," Trevino Leal said, as she didn't expect to be embraced by American society.

Being Mexican, she was worried about being accepted, as many immigrants who work illegally in the U.S. may sometimes create a bad stereotype of their home country.

Also new for her here in Kansas is the way people interact with one another. In Mexico, when saying "hello," a person should also kiss their friend. If he or she is a close friend, hugging is obligatory. In Kansas, she said this is very different.

Family connections are extremely important in Latin America as well. Having large families of four to five children was the norm. Trevino Leal has many uncles and aunts, and more than 20 cousins.

When speaking about Kansas, she noticed how religious young people here are. Though there is the stereotype that Latin Americans are very religious, Trevino Leal said it is just an exaggeration. While majority of Mexicans are Catholics, churches are not as influential in big

cities anymore.

But out of all the differences

noted, food is a big one. As there are plenty of Mexican restaurants in the U.S., it's interesting to hear the opinion of someone from Mexico.

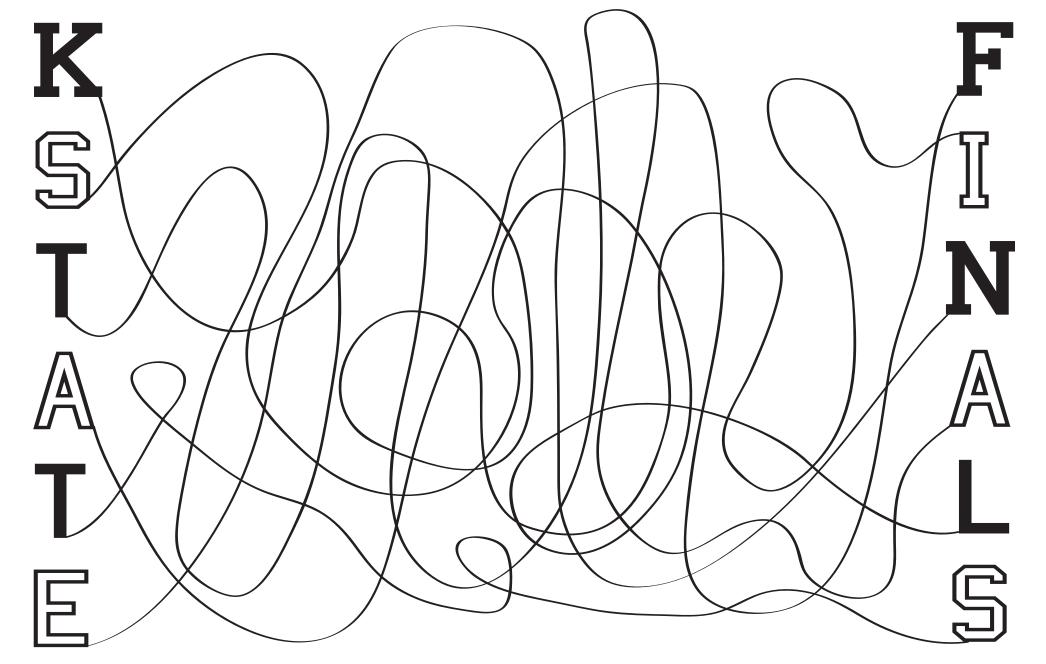
"Actually, it's not Mexican food," Trevino Leal said. "Within four months I tried Mexican cuisine just once. Most of what's called here as 'Mexican' belongs to Tex-Mex."

She said real Mexican food doesn't just mean spicy. While cooking, people use other ingredients that are not always found in Tex-Mex. For instance, cilantro, onion and different kinds of peppers. Traditional Mexican food also contains Oaxaca and Panela cheeses, while in Tex-Mex food, the original recipe's cheese is usually replaced by cheddar.

The schedule for having meal is also different in Mexico, she said. Breakfast, consisting of tacos, but not sweets, starts in the early morning, from 6 to 7 a.m.. Lunch is not at noon, like in the U.S., but at 2 p.m. The majority of people in Mexico have lunch at home all together with their family. She said dinner is usually very late in comparison with that in the U.S. It's scheduled at 8 or 9 p.m. and it's not so heavy, consisting of cereal, eggs and sand-

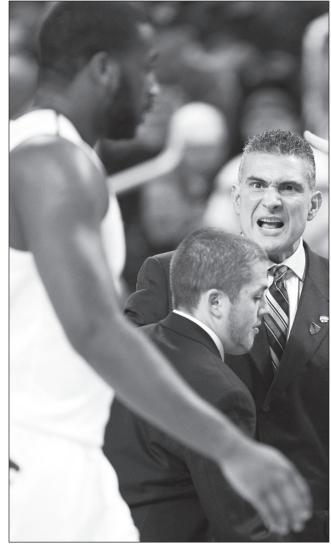
Although living in the U.S. was sometimes challenging for Trevino Leal, she said she gained useful English-speaking experience. Another experience was living in Kansas among people of different nationalities, carrying different cultures and traditions.

### Follow the lines to connect K-STATE to FINALS



wednesday, december 9, 2011 kansas state **collegian** 

### Wildcats lose 85-80 to WVU Mountaineers in double overtime



Photos by Logan M. Jones | Collegian

Head coach Frank Martin yells at forward Thomas Gipson during the Wildcat Classic in Wichita on Thursday as the freshman walks down the court. Gipson contributed 15 points and 10 rebounds, but that wasn't enough to fend off the West Virginia Mountaineers. The team, coached by ex-Wildcat coach Bob Huggins, beat K-State 85-80 in two overtimes.

**Jared Brown** 

WICHITA-- K-State welcomed back former head coach Bob Huggins Thursday night as the Wildcats faced off against the West Virginia Mountaineers in the first ever Wichita Wildcat Classic. It was the first time head coach Frank Martin faced off against his former mentor since the two parted ways four years ago. The game lived up to the hype as the Wildcats and Mountaineers played a double overtime thriller with the Mountaineers prevailing 85-80.

West Virginia was led by senior Kevin Jones as he scored 30 points to go along with 12 rebounds. Darryl "Truck" Bryant also pitched in 24 points.

After the game Coach Martin talked about the perforamce from Jones.

"He is the reason why they got to the line so much tonight. He has been a key player on a team that went to the Final Four," Martin said. "It does not matter what team they play, he is able to have those type of games like that."

K-State was led by junior Rodney Mcgruder as he had 20 points to go along with three rebounds. Freshman Thomas Gipson had a double-double as he had 15 points and 10 rebounds

The Wildcats took a quick 7-2 lead in front of a crowd that featured more than 15,000 fans. However, the Mountaineers were able to get back into the game behind the scoring of Jones and Bryant as the two accounted for 24 out of the Mountaineers 30 first half-

K-State went into halftime leading 31-30 as McGruder



K-State guard **Will Spradling** hits the Intrust Bank Arena floor as West Virginia guard **Jabarie Hinds** jumps over him to get a loose ball. The game was played in Wichita and titled the "Wildcat Classic." The game went into double overtime, and in spite of Spradling's 16 points, the Mountaineers pulled away, defeating the Wildcats.

and sophomore Will Spradling each had eight points.

The second half continued with a battle until a five-point

got into foul trouble. Senior Jamar Samuels fouled out late in the second half with eight points. With these eight points, run by the Wildcats gave them he was able to surpass the 1,000

"It was a great environment here. Our fans were great as was the city of Wichita. I am just disappointed that we let the fans down."

> Frank Martin head basketball coach

a 48-42 lead.

After a West Virginia timeout, the pace of the game started to slow down as both teams

point club. The Wildcats held a 64-61 lead late in the second half when the Mountaineers went to their go to scorer, Jones. Jones received a pass in the corner where he hit a deep three to tie the game and send

it into overtime. Overtime saw much of the same as the two teams battled late into overtime until another key Wildcat was lost due to foul trouble. This time it was Spradling, who finished the game

with 16 points. Down two late into the game, it was the Wildcats turn to make a clutch basket. Mc-Gruder got the ball outside the three point line and was able to get in the lane and convert the runner, tying the score at 74 and sending it into a second

overtime. In the second overtime, the two teams were tied at 80, when Aaron Brown hit a three to give the Mountaineers a 3-point lead and they would go on to win the game by five.

After the game, Coach Martin said how he felt for the

"It was a great environment here. Our fans were great as was the city of Wichita. I am just disappointed that we let the fans down."

The win moves the Mountaineers to 5-2 on the season and the loss was the first for the Wildcats as they dropped to 5-1 on the season

The Wildcats will be back in tion on Sunday as they play host to North Florida. That game will be played at Bramlage Coliseum and will tip-off at 1 p.m.

#### Two-Minute Drill

Sean Frye

#### staff writer MLB

St. Louis will have one of the toughest jobs in baseball this winter; replacing Albert Pujols. The prized free agent of this year's pool of players without a home chose to sign a 10-year, \$254 million deal with the Los Angeles Angels. Pujols, who is a three-time National League MVP, joined pitcher C.J. Wilson as part of the free agency pick ups for the Angels. Pujols' contract will make him the second highest paid player in baseball behind New York Yankees' third baseman Alex Rodriguez.

#### **NCAA**

After spending a night in jail, former Penn State defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky posted his \$250,000 bail and returned home. He used \$200,000 of property assets and \$50,000 cash to make bail. Sandusky will be subjected to electronic monitoring and house arrest until he returns to court to face more than 50 counts of child sex abuse charges of 10 alleged victims. Sandusky was spotted wearing a Penn State jacket as he left prison.

#### **RACING**

The IndyCar Series has officially responded to the death of Dan Wheldon, who died in a car crash in Las Vegas during the opening laps of a race on Oct. 16. To prevent future accidents on that track, the series will bypass the race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway all together next season. The investigation regarding the 15-car crash that caused Wheldon's death is ongoing, and the series has put off releasing the 2012 season schedule pending the results of that inquiry.

#### **NBA**

Caron Butler and the Los Angeles Clippers reached an agreement on Thursday to a three-year contract that will total \$24 million. Butler also received interest from Chicago, San Antonio and New Jersey. Butler will look to be part of a three-man tandem that includes Blake Griffin and Eric Gordon as the Clippers look to become playoff contenders. Butler spent most of last season with the defending champion Dallas Mavericks injured on the bench, as he only appeared in 29 games.peared in 29 games.

### Cats trip to Hawaii exciting, homecoming for a player



ment.

sports editor

The Wildcats look to continue their magical run through the NCAA volleyball tournament as they get back on the court tonight night in Honolulu. The Wildcats will take on the Pepperdine Waves, who enter the match as the 15th ranked team in the tourna-

K-State (22-10) is coming off a thrilling fiveset upset over the second ranked Nebraska Cornhuskers. As special as this match is for the Wildcats as a team, it is a homecoming for Kuulei Kabalis.

Kabalis, a junior, is coming back to her home state. Kabalis is the first player from Hawaii to play at K-State. At Tuesday's press conference, Kabalis talked about her excitement to return home. "It is so exciting for me

and my team," Kabalis said. "I am so excited to bring them back with me to my home rock and play in front of people that I know and my family. I never get this kind of opportunity, so it is huge."

Pepperdine is coming off a victory over North Carolina. The Waves are led by Kim Hill, who is averaging 3.89 kills per set on the season. The Waves' offense is set up by Kellie Woolever, who averages more than 11 assists a

set on the season. Coach Fritz about what type of challenges that her team will

face from Pepperdine.

"I think they are very balanced," Fritz said. "I think they are very good at the pins and generally when you get to this point, if you can have two or three pin-hitters of that caliber, then you can be in it and play with anybody, and I think they have got that."

First team All-Big-12 selection Kaitlynn Pelger said that her team has put the upset victory behind them, and is now focused on Pepperdine.

"I think you can only talk about a win for so long," Pelger said. "We came in today, got better and talked about Pepperdine a little bit. Our coaches are going to prepare us when we get to Hawaii. We are just excited that we are playing our best volleyball

right now." The match will be broadcast on KMAN-AM 1350 with Rob Voelker covering the game. The match will also be available on the station's website and free online at kstatesports. com, as well as espn3.com. Pregame starts at 8:30 p.m. CST. If K-State advances to Saturday's regional final, that match will be at 11 p.m. CST with pregame starting 30 minutes prior to the first serve.

"I think you can only talk about a win for so long, we came in today, got better and talked about Pepperdine a little bit. Our coaches are going to prepare us when we get to Hawaii. We are just excited that we are playing our best volleyball right now."

> Kaitlynn Pelger middle blocker

Lauren Gocken I Collegian

Alex Muff, junior middle blocker, goes to smack the ball back over the net to OU in Ahearn Field House,

### K-State student wins America's Best Raisin Bread recipe contest

Jillian Aramowicz staff writer

During the holiday season, the sweet scent of familial love is often manifested in the form of delicious baked goods being mixed, molded and eaten by families across the globe. For one K-State student, however, the tradition of baking meant much more than making a tasty treat for her friends and family.

Madison Beck, senior in food science and industry with a minor in bakery science, was the winner of the America's Best Raisin Bread Contest sponsored by the California Raisin Marketing Board. Beck decided to enter the contest after working as an intern for the ingredient supply company, Caravan Ingredients, in Lenexa,

"They [Caravan Ingredients] deal mostly with baked goods and they make new formulas [recipes] or alter existing formulas for numerous companies around the world," Beck said. "A few of the people that I worked with there were entering the contest and they encouraged me to give it a shot. At first it sounded fun to come up with a new raisin bread product, but once I started to put it together, I realized I had a chance and decided to fill out the entry forms and submit my recipe."

The factor that made Beck's recipe unique is the alteration she put on a typical raisin bread recipe — the addition of barbeque seasoning — thus dubbing her product "Barbeque Raisin Bread."

"I used a dry rub from a local Kansas City spice store and it really did the trick," Beck said.

Beck said her passion for cooking and baking started at a young age and she was in-fluenced by both her mother and grandmother alike in the

"I can remember even at a young age watching my mom cook and bake, and of course, I loved to help if there was something I could do," Beck said. "My first memory of baking by myself was from a 'Kid's Ćan Ćook' cookbook when I was about 10. It had a cupcake recipe in it that I made from scratch; my mom only helped with the oven part of it."

Beck said her coworkers at Caravan Ingredients were a huge influence and support network for her during the con-

"The people that I worked with at Caravan were a huge help. There is no way I could have done it without them," Beck said. "They helped me bake a good quality loaf of bread, and I contributed the originality in the flavor area."

One would think that winning a national contest would take plenty of trial and error work to get a final product that was perfect, but Beck hardly had any time to perfect her recipe before the contest judg-

"I baked about 12 different trials until I found one that I liked," Beck said. "If I had more time, I probably would have done a few more variations, but I was happy with it."

Beck said her friends at work were responsible for most of the taste testing and she trusted their judgment on her recipe being ready to submit. Her mother, father, aunt, uncle and roommate all got a preview of the prize-winning recipe before the contest, as well.

One of the nerve-wracking parts of the contest, she said, was the fact that she had to bake her recipe in front of the actual judges, not just present them with a finished loaf. The contest was held at the American Institute of Baking here in Manhattan.

Beck said she wanted to emphasize that the bread was savory, not just sweet, and would be perfect for sandwiches. Since she spiced her recipe with barbeque seasoning, Beck presented her loaf on a tray complete with brisket, baked beans and coleslaw.

After winning the contest, Beck received a plaque, a five-day all-expenses paid trip to Cálifornia and her recipe will be featured in the California Raisin Cookbook in 2011.

"As a student, this award is a great honor," Beck said. "I went into it feeling very inexperienced and an underdog in a way. But I met so many amazing people including new friends in various culinary programs and learned so much from them," Beck said. "This award gives me a push to pursue baking even more and focus on the research and development side of food science. This also reassures me that food science is my pas-

### False fire alarms in Hale Library lead to problems, water damage

**Haley Rose** 

When fire alarms go off in Hale Library, the primary concern is the presence of a fire. More often than not however, the smoke detectors go off upon their own volition and there is no real danger, but by the time that is realized, the real damage has already been done.

When the fire alarm system in Hale is activated, the building's sprinkler system reacts, pumping 100 pounds of pressure into the pipes instead of the normal dormant pressure of 10 pounds.

This pressure increase is what causes the most damage when the fire alarms go off, because the sprinkler pipes have begun to corrode and will burst open or leak onto the books.

When a smoke detector went off in the Einstein Bros. Bagels café area last Friday, there was no apparent explana-tion for why the detector went

"There was no smoke," said Roberta Johnson, director of administrative and Information Technology Services, "It could have been dust that set

After the alarm went off and water surged through the pipes, a leak occurred in the fourth-floor stacks, requiring the removal of around 1,000 books, 70 of which were damaged.

"When the books get wet, that can mean a few types of damage," said Kathryn Talbot, preservation coordinator at

Hale. "It can be water damage where the pages will absorb a lot of water and warp, or it could end up being a mold problem."

There are currently around one million books in Hale Library, and the value and whether or not the book can be easily replaced determine what happens to the damaged books. The preservation department will restore books with greater value, which is usually those in the department of special collections, and they replace the books that have alternate copies available elsewhere.

The cost for book restoration is usually minimal, Talbot said. Because the time and personnel used to restore the books are already on staff, it is added to a day's work. There is, however, an occasional fee when books are replaced.

According to minutes from an Aug. 17 meeting of the Friends of the K-State Libraries board of directors meeting, the university is planning on replacing the sprinkler system in Hale, which will be an 18-24 month project. The proposed start date of the project was not

Finicky smoke detectors are also a problem in Hale. They have been known to go off for no apparent reason and when that happens, the building has to be cleared and all floors must be checked for a threat.

Clearing the building can take a long time, Johnson said. The library sees an average of 1,000 students across the five floors on an average night, and even more during dead week and finals week.

"What really scares me is if students are asleep with headphones in and can't hear the alarm," she said. During a fire alarm last year, Johnson and a fire marshal who were clearing the building found a student fast asleep with earbuds in on the second floor.

The Manhattan Fire Department automatically responds to fire alarms to assess what

happened.
"All fire alarms are treated the same," said Ryan Almes, Manhattan fire marshal. "We automatically send out one fire engine with lights and sirens, but will increase that number if we get additional information that there is a fire, or if we get a call while we're in route that it was something like cooking smoke, it will be downgraded to a non-emergency call. We still go check it out though."

Even with a false fire alarm, there are still risks involved in sending out fire engines, Almes said. "When we put our people on the roadway on an emergency call. That's always a risk trying to get through traffic."

"Another problem is people becoming complacent when fire alarms go off," he said. "It's kind of like crying wolf syndrome. They just don't take the alarms seriously."

The university is not charged for false fire alarms as it is considered a 'higher governmental entity.' The fire department normally begins charging after a third false alarm incident at non-governmental buildings. Fees can get as high as \$250 upon the eighth false alarm.

### **INTERSESSION** | Economy helped by migrant workers despite beliefs

#### **Continued from page 1**

"It was just something I never thought of," Vankar said. "I've always lived with my family, so I never thought about how it would feel."

Damian related to the prisoners on a more personal level. Her father was a day laborer in California when she was very young, and although she did not remember his days of landscaping and picking strawberries, seeing the workers firsthand was emo-

'It gave me an appreciation of what my father did and how it impacted me as a person," Damian said. "I think sometimes we don't appreciate the work these people do for the

The article "'We're all parasites.' This is Operation Streamline" by Max Blumenthal details the court proceedings that Berhow and the students witnessed. Operation Streamline was introduced in 2005 to deter undocumented immigrants from entering the country by keeping records of their entries, but the pro-

gram has failed to achieve this and instead funnels millions in taxpayers' money into private prisons and the court systems. According to the article, the number of public defenders has nearly doubled in Tuscon since its inception.

Vankar said it appeared the prisoners did not understand what was going on, but said 'yes" to the crimes because they were told to, a sentiment shared by Blumenthal's Berhow said many people

feel anger or disgust with illegal immigrants because they focus on the "illegal" part and ignore everything else.
"People in need hear some-

one is getting something for free, especially someone who is 'not one of us,' and it drives them crazy," Berhow said.

Berhow said migrant workers benefit the U.S. economy more than they impact it negatively. He cited the article "Five Myths About Immigration: Common Misconceptions Underlying U.S. Border-Engorcement Policy" by Douglas S. Massey, Ph.D, which states that 66 percent of Mexican immigrants pay into Social Security here in the U.S. and 62 percent pay income taxes, but only five percent use food stamps, welfare, or unemployment compensation. Berhow said immigrants also pay sales tax on anything they purchase and do other things to benefit the economy.

Damian said she understood the United States' desire to help other nations, as she, herself, has helped communities in Haiti and El Salvador, but often the media portrays the worst-case scenarios in these countries. Damian said her boyfriend is from Africa and while there are people suffering there, Africans are more resourceful than people give them credit for.

"I think it's interesting how the U.S. wants to go to other countries to help the people and villages when they could be doing that right here," Damian said.

For more information on the planned intersession course, please contact Jonathan Berhow at jeb6644@ksu.

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### Instructor's love for music, life influenced by travel, cultures

**Elizabeth Hughes** contributing writer

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communi-

As an instructor in communication studies, theatre and dance at K-State, Neil Dunn dabbles in a wide range of artistic mediums like choreography, composition, music editing and production. Al-though Dunn teaches in the dance program, his primary background is in music. He received his first drum set at the age of 16 and has been playing ever since.

"I don't remember ever not wanting to play the drums," Dunn said. "I recall the first time I ever saw a drum set. I think of it as the first time I probably ever experienced lust. I was just so taken back

Growing up, Dunn's family was involved with the arts. His sister is a thespian, his brother a photographer, his oldest sister is a skilled pianist and although his father was a scientist and an engineer, Dunn said there was an art to what

"We all played piano," he said. "That was one of the requirements in our household. You had to take type class in high school and you had to take piano lessons."

His ever-growing list of expertise includes his involvement as a drummer in the Red State Blues Band, a local band composed of K-State faculty and professors, for the past three years.

Before moving to Manhattan in 2005, Dunn lived in

Tuscon, Ariz. where he played freelance gigs and orchestral music. Dunn described the Red State Blues Band as his first steady band experience. He was introduced to the band after meeting Seth Galitzer, saxophone player and frontman, at a neighborhood block

Dunn is the only member of the Red State Blues Band with formal training in music. Their playlists generally consist of blues rock or classic blues, and can be heard at bars in Aggieville, like Pat's Blue Rib'n Barbecue and Auntie Mae's Parlor.

After earning his bachelor's degree in music and a master's degree in music from the University of Arizona in 2002, Dunn said he always knew he wanted to study music and nothing was going to stop him. "For Neil, music is a voice,

especially through his writing," said Julie Pentz, Neil's wife and director of the dance program at K-State. "When I say a voice, I mean he speaks so many different things through his work. I wonder sometimes if it's therapeutic for him. I just know he loves being in that band and going down to the bars to play a show. It's who he is. He has always been a musician."

For five years, Dunn and Pentz traveled overseas during the summer. It began with a five-week trip to Taiwan, followed by two trips to Spain and Africa.

"As a percussionist, Neil had always talked about Africa," Pentz said. "We're just the kind of couple that's open minded. We're not afraid to travel. There's that uncertainty just like with any international

travel, but Africa never scared us. We'll be going there the rest of our lives. Who wouldn't want to do African drumming

and dancing?"

During the summer of 2010, Dunn and Pentz resided in Ghana for a month, studying at a music and dance center. They participated in a structured schedule of xylophone and drums class in the morning and dance class in the afternoon.

"Traveling changed my life," Dunn said. "The spirit of the African people had a tremendous impact on us. They're so happy and they have so little. It

"Music has been one of the only things in my life as long as I can remember that's been constant and something I can count on,"

> instructor in theatre and dance

really gave me an appreciation for how good we have it. I see people, including myself, who fall into unhappiness, when we really don't have much to complain about compared to other countries. They live a very simple life and the things that are important to them are actually real."

Dunn said studying music and dance with the people he worked with really touched him and became a part of him. He said he could never let go of the type of expression he learned in Ghana. The way people would bring out their drums to celebrate the joy of life, treating every moment as a gift, is what truly changed

Dunn and Pentz said they enjoy working together. They have collaborated on several occasions over the years, mostly with Dunn writing music and Pentz choreograph-

ing.
"I'm really lucky to be married to someone who I can work with," Pentz said. "He does music editing, all of the academic advising for the dance students, his African class, his dance musician training program, choreography, a technology class, he's a production coordinator and then he finds time to play on the weekend with the Red State Blues Band. It's incredible how much he has to offer."

Some of the most memorable Red State Blues Band experiences for Dunn include playing at Purple Power Play on Poyntz and the Junction City Blues Festival. His absolute favorite, however, was the last time the group played at Auntie Mae's.

"The way we played and the way we all came together felt really good," Dunn said. "Any group of people have their conflicts, but when we get on stage the music just covers it. It's like my teacher used to say 'when you're on that stage, the universe unfolds and for that time nothing else matters.' That's so true when we play. It really does just turn into a magical moment."

Dunn said performing with the Red State Blues Band has been one of his best experiences, even compared to his

Neil Dunn is a instructor in community studies, theatre and dance. He is seen here playing one of his many gyil, pronounced JEE-lee, also called a african xylophone, in a dance studio located in the basement of Nichols Hall.

love for orchestral music and

opera.
"Music has been one of the only things in my life as long as I can remember that's been constant and something I can count on," Dunn said. "Whether it's making music or listening to music. We're excited to bring music into our children's lives, and take them overseas with us or to music and dance concerts when

### K-State international alumni share experiences, current success

Saif Alazemi

Ambassadors of K-State's spirit overseas came from all over the world with ambition and left with a part of K-State in them. They are the international students from more than 100 countries who studied at K-State. International students have been sharing and exchanging knowledge since the first international student was admitted to K-State back in 1881.

However, when these students return to their countries, the only thing that is often left about them is a name in the alumni directory.

Their stories after graduation represent how K-State's influence reached thousands of miles away to make difference on personal and community levels. Some of them like Mahmud Abaza, 2009 K-State alumnus, made history in Egypt by participating in the great Egyptian revolution that ended the 30 years of the unjust regime.

Others, like Altair Arlindo Semeao from Brazil, who graduated in entomology in

2010, may very well be on their individual path to great-

"I had a great experience at K-State," Semeao said. "Throughout the years, I met great people from all around the world."

Semeao said that meeting these people made him understand the differences and similarities between people, and that his experience at K-State was unique.

"I will be purple pride for-ever," Semeao said. "I could not go to a better university. Where I go I recommend K-State and it is in my plans to return one day and visit K-State."

When Semeao was asked whether his experience at K-State helped him to establish a career, he said his education definitely helped.

'Two months after returning to Brazil, I got a job and that has to do with all the learning that I had at K-State,"

Semeao said. Semeao is currently researching new traits for genetically modified soy and corn, and thanked his professors for his success thus far.

The next destination is to Saudi Arabia to hear the story of Aghsan Ahmed, 2009 Kstate graduate in software engineering. Ahmed said that her major was quite challenging because women were not given the option to study soft-

> "I got a master's degree in software engineering which is not offered in my country yet for women," Ahmed said.
> "I've gained so much experience when I was in the states, especially at K-State University. Some of these experiences being a student at K-State is unlike what I've used to study when I was a student in Saudi Arabia. In K-State I became more familiar with the new academic system that relies on

ware engineering in her home

self-regulated learning." Ahmed recalled the obstacles she faced and said that the beginning of her experience was frustrating because she had so much to accomplish.

"It's an opportunity to discover the strengths and abilities and solve new problems," Ahmed said. "I've faced situations that are completely unfamiliar to me and I had learned to adjust and respond in effective ways."

Ahmed is now working in a field in which women in her country rarely work, but she

"It's an opportunity to discover the strengths and abilities, and solve new problems. I've faced situations that are completely unfamiliar to me and I had learned to adjust and respond in effective ways."

**Aghsan Ahmed** 2009 K-state graduate in **Software Engineering** 

is attempting to make a difference by taking the unpaved road to discover different possibilities for women.

"I work in King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center as a programmer analyst in the IT department under the data warehouse section," Ahmed said. "After a year or a year and half I will be a senior programmer analyst."

Ahmed had a message to her professors and to K-State, and said that she is honored to have graduated from K-State.

"I'm very grateful to all my wonderful teachers who taught me. I've learned not only academic things, but also life lessons," Ahmed said. Valerie Tan, 2009 K-State

raduate in human nutrition. was another international student who faced cultural and social difficulties. Tan, who is originally from Malaysia, said that she had come to "K-State not knowing anyone but was eager to make new friends and learn about the American cul-

"Although I speak English, it wasn't entirely easy communicating with some of my American friends because of the different terms and slang we use back in Malaysia," Tan

She mentioned a funny situation she been through in which language differences presented a confusing situa-

Once, one of my friends commented there was a new strip mall around town and I had asked him casually, 'So do they really take off clothes in the strip mall?' I had no idea why he was laughing so hard until he explained what it was to me later," she said.

Tan explained how her experiences changed her, and said she took some of these changes home.

"When I first went to class-I was not used to being able to voice my opinions in classes. The reason is because I am so accustomed to the traditional classroom setting in my home country where no one is usually allowed to talk in class," Tan said. "I have learned to be more outspoken and direct."

Tan currently works for her father's company selling laboratory furniture. She sent a message of inspiration to stu-

"Carpe Diem," Tan said. "Enjoy every moment you have at K-state."

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